

Due to the constant fluctuation of the cryptocurrency, digital distribution platform Steam also had to make compromises in terms of purchasing. (Bloomberg/George Frey)

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Bank Indonesia (BI) has teamed up with the National Police to prevent transactions using cryptocurrency bitcoin in Bali after the central bank declared it an illegal form of payment in Indonesia.

“We are looking out for bitcoin transactions in Bali, particularly in tourist spots. We will take measures against non-rupiah transactions,” said BI’s Bali office head Causa Iman Karana over the weekend in Denpasar as reported by *tempo.co*.

As a noted tourist destination, he said, Bali was an alluring place for those who wanted to carry out illegal transactions.

Therefore, he called on the people not to accommodate offers of transactions using the virtual money. “We warned people not to carry out transactions with virtual money because there is no authority that regulates the transactions,” he said.

Previously, BI spokesman Agusman said the central bank prohibited payment using bitcoin as it violated Law No. 7/2011 on currency.

To specify the ban, BI has also issued BI Regulation No. PBI/19/12/PBI/2017 on the implementation of financial technology.

Under the law, any payment in Indonesia has to be in rupiah.

Agusman also warned that transactions with bitcoin had high risk because the cryptocurrency had no official administrator. He also explained that bitcoin was at high risk of being used for money laundering, terrorism and other criminal transactions.

“Therefore, [BI] wants all parties not to sell, buy or trade the virtual currency,” he added (bbn)

Topics : [Bitcoin](#), [transaction](#), [prohibition](#), [BI](#), [National-Police](#)

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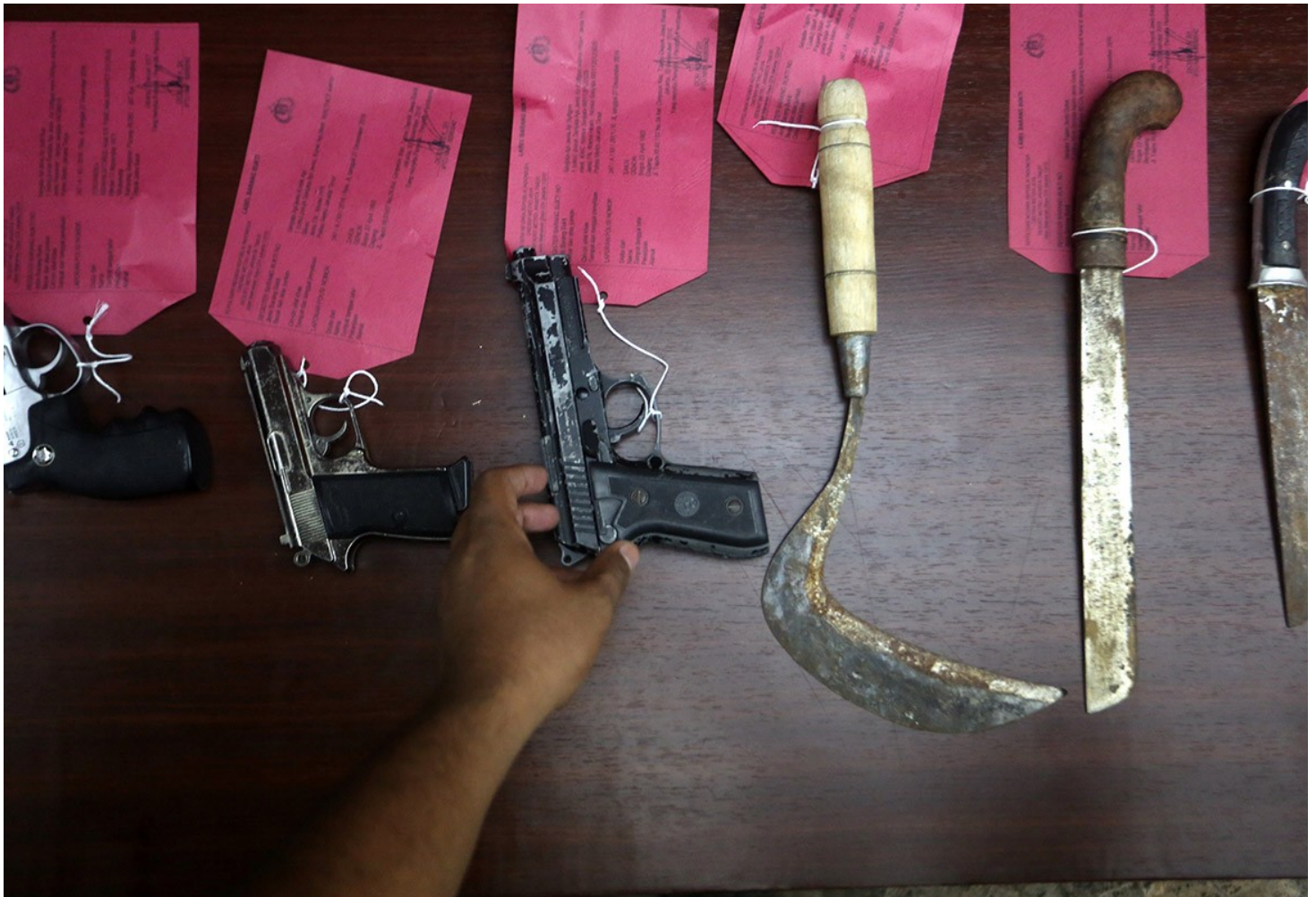
## Teens arrested for selling sharp weapons



**News Desk**

The Jakarta Post

Jakarta | Fri, February 9, 2018 | 04:59 pm



The Depok Police's Jaguar Team recently arrested two teenagers suspected of selling a 'celurit' (a traditional machete). (JP/Seto Wardhana.)

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The Depok Police's Jaguar Team, tasked with combating street crime, recently arrested two teenagers suspected of selling sharp weapons. The suspects, a 16 year-old male and



17-year old female, were arrested at Universitas Indonesia bus stop on Jl. Margonda in Depok, West Java, as they were reportedly in the process of handing over a *celurit* (traditional machete) to a buyer.

Jaguar Team chief First Insp. Winam Agus said his team had gathered information from Instagram that suggested the transaction would take place at the bus stop in the early hours of Thursday morning.

When arriving at the bus stop at around 3 a.m., the team members, who were in disguise reportedly only found the pair of teenagers sitting on the bus stop's bench. The team then searched the teenagers and found a large *celurit* in a bag they had brought.

"A nearly one-meter-long *celurit* was found in a bag they brought," Winam said, as quoted by *tempo.co* on Thursday, adding that the teenagers had admitted to being members of a Jakarta gang called *Belajar Gila* (learning to be crazy). Both the teenagers are South Jakarta residents.

They had also allegedly conducted transactions for sharp weapons before. The weapons were sold to other teenagers to be used in brawls.

The two teenagers were brought to Depok Police headquarters for further investigations (vny)

Topics : **weapon, transaction, teenagers, Depok**



# Central bank cuts merchant discount rates for debit card transactions

JP

News Desk

The Jakarta Post

Jakarta | Tue, December 5, 2017 | 11:54 am



Transactions are carried out at an ATM center in Jakarta. (kontan.co.id/Baihaki)

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Bank Indonesia reduced Tuesday merchant discount rates (MDR) to 1 percent from between 2 and 3 percent for debit card transactions made using ATMs and electronic data capture (EDC) machines.

“I assure you MDR would go down to 1 percent,” said BI Governor Agus Martowardojo in Jakarta on Monday on the sidelines of the launching of National Payment Gateway program.

He said that, currently, banks shouldered high costs while conducting transactions through ATMs and EDCs because of high MDR rates.

BI transformation center program head Onny Widjanarko said that banks would not shoulder additional costs as a result of the change.

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Read also: [Bank Indonesia launches national payment gateway](#)

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“We have calculated that there is no party that would suffer any losses [because of the decline in MDR],” he said as reported by [kontan.co.id](#), adding that the banking industry would instead be more efficient because of the program.

With the new system, banks need not provide additional ATMs and EDCs and they would also benefit from the MDR decline as customers are expected to carry out more transactions.

Meanwhile, BI recorded Rp 17 trillion (US\$1.26 billion) in debit card transactions per day nationwide. (bbn)

Topics : [MDR-merchant-discount-rates](#), [decline](#), [BI](#), [ATM](#), [EDC](#), [transaction](#)



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